



The Partnership Post

Volume 1, Issue 1

November-December 2006



Directors' Message

We are excited to present you with the Fairfax Mentors Project's (FMP) first *Partnership Post*. You will find program highlights, field trip reports, and information on upcoming events in this newsletter.

Over the last month programs at Yorkville, Reston, and Bailey's community centers have been growing. At York-

ville alone, over 30 mentors and mentees are involved in FMP.

We are actively recruiting more mentors for all of the mentoring sites. If you know of a friend, co-worker, or neighbor who is interested in mentoring, we would love to get in touch with them.

Looking Forward:

In December we will take another field

trip in the DC area, and in January we will ring in the new year and National Mentoring Month with a celebration for mentees and mentors. Get ready for a great holiday season and an exciting winter in mentoring!

-Laura & Lindy

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LINDY JAOUAD

- ☺ **Hometown:** Washington D.C.
- ☺ **Word that describes you best:** Optimistic
- ☺ **Interests:** Swimming, writing, exploring the outdoors, spending time with family & friends, reading, walking, and photography
- ☺ **Favorite Subjects in School:** History, Psychology, Geography
- ☺ **Favorite Part of the Job:** Observing the impact that mentors and mentees have on each others' lives.
- ☺ **Contact Info:** Ljaouad@vt.edu 703.324.5341

Meet the New FMP Directors



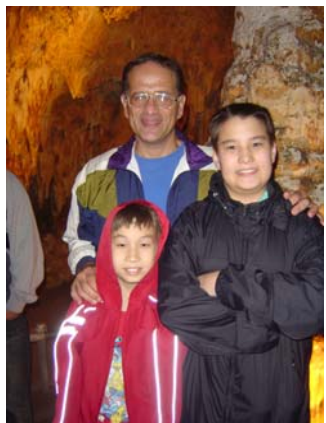
LAURA GALANTE

- ☺ **Hometown:** Chicago, IL
- ☺ **Word that describes you best:** Enthusiastic
- ☺ **Interests:** Politics, horse riding, ballroom dancing, languages, agriculture, and cooking
- ☺ **Favorite Subjects in School:** International Relations, History, and Spanish
- ☺ **Favorite Part of the Job:** Meeting new people
- ☺ **Contact Info:** Galante@vt.edu 703.324.5344

Exploring Luray Caverns

On Saturday, October 21 30 mentors and mentees traveled to Luray Caverns. The group ate lunch and toured the caves. Participants marveled at the underground wonders and enjoyed spending time with their mentees and mentors.

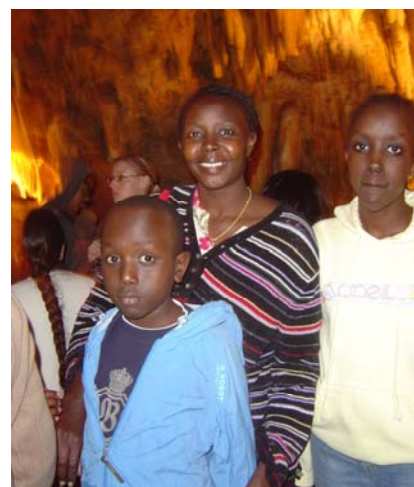
A mentee at Yorkville wrote about the trip.



Many of the rock formations in the cave looked like animals and other objects:

" My favorite parts of the Luray Caverns trip was the organ and the dog. I liked the organ because it was played by a stalagmite. And that was cool. And the dog was cool because it looked like a dog. Those

were my favorite parts of Luray Caverns. " - Jago



Yorkville Update: Nutrition Classes and 8 New Mentors

In October and November, eight new mentors began working with students at Yorkville. Our new mentors come with a variety of experiences and work in many different fields. They include an engineer, a management analyst, and a mother. Their hobbies include: football, castle building, playing musical instruments, traveling, volleyball, and dancing.

Nutrition and Mentoring:

Mentors and mentees arrive at 4PM to the Yorkville Community Center and work on homework and school projects. At 4:30 everyone turns their attention to Ci-

arra Rijos, the visiting nutrition class teacher. Activities have included making fruit kabobs, learning about food groups, discussing serving size, and talking about healthy food choices. Classes will continue through November.

More fun classes and projects will begin again in January.



Quote from our newest mentors:

Why do you mentor?

"To give back to the community"

"To be a positive role-model"

"It feels great to help someone!"

Reston Mentoring Project

The Reston Mentoring Project is an initiative strongly supported by Supervisor Catherine Hudgins. The program began in the Spring of 2006, and currently has seven mentor/mentee matches. The Reston Mentoring Project hopes to grow beyond 20 matches this year.

Mentors and mentees now meet at the beautiful new Southgate Com-

munity Center at 12125 Pinecrest Road in Reston, Virginia. Mentees are referred to the program by neighboring Dogwood and Hunters Woods Elementary Schools as well as Langston-Hughes Middle School. The mentees have had the added benefit of other after school programs at Southgate, such as homework help, sports activities, crafts, com-

puter lab time and assistance, and healthy snacks.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a mentor at Southgate, please call Lindy Jaouad at 703-324-5341



For information on programs available at the Southgate Community Center, contact Director LaShawn Timmons at 703-860-0676.

Bailey's Update:

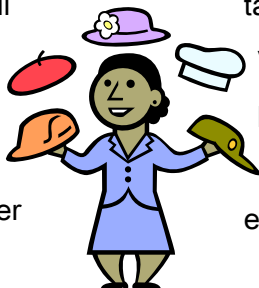
Mentors and mentees at Bailey's Community Center meet on Wednesday evenings between 4PM and 6PM. Some pairs choose to meet on Saturday afternoons as well. Many of these mentees and mentors have been

with FMP (and the former JUMP) since the program's inception. We also have one new mentor, a senior student at GWU. Many Bailey's participants came on the Luray Caverns trip.



Yorkville Community Homework and Career Workshops

On November 19 from 2-4PM community professionals and university students will help Yorkville community students with homework, answer career



questions, play sports, and do an art project. All students, elementary through high school, are invited to attend the workshop. Many groups and community members had expressed interest in mentoring but are unable to

make the Tuesday afternoon sessions at Yorkville. This workshop will be a great opportunity to get everyone involved! Some of these interested groups include: Young Somali Professionals, George Mason student groups, and others.

Contact the FMP Office:

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**December
Field Trip
Details
Coming
Soon!**

